MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 APRIL 1981

Lebanon

Israeli Landing Operation--Citing the Palestinian news agency WAFA, AFP reported that Israeli forces staged a large-scale operation in southern Lebanon during the night of 9-10 April, clashing with Palestinian forces at several sites in the An-Nabatiyah area. It added that Israeli gunboats bombarded the central sector of southern Lebanon. According to Beirut radio, the Israeli forces landed at seven points in the south, beginning with a helicopter landing operation near Az-Zahrani. Confirming the raid, Jerusalem radio reported that its target was a "terrorist base" near 'Arab Salim. Quoting the commander of the IDF northern command, the radio said tanks and buildings at the base were destroyed and four "terrorists" were killed. Another Jerusalem radio report said IDF forces sustained two casualties. Beirut radio later claimed that Israeli Phantom aircraft bombed Ad-Dalahmiyah on the morning of 10 April, damaging houses and wounding three civilians.

Agreement on Army Deployment--Citing the Lebanese newspapers AS-SAFIR and AL-ANWAR, AFP reported that Israel has agreed to the deployment of Lebanese Army troops alongside UN peacekeeping forces in southern Lebanon. UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart, who is visiting Beirut, has informed the Lebanese authorities of the Israeli decision, it added.

Beirut, Zahlah Calm--Beirut radio reported that Beirut and Zahlah remained calm, with only sporadic firing heard from the ridge surrounding Zahlah. It added that internal security forces patrols entered Zahlah and that medical teams were evacuating the seriously wounded. The Voice of Lebanon radio, however, said that on 9 April Syrian forces opened heavy fire on the eastern towns of Wadi al-'Ara'ish and Ad-Duq. It also claimed that 200 inhabitants of Zahlah and 100 Syrians had been killed during the recent violence there.

Al-Jumayyil Statement--According to the Voice of Lebanon radio, Phalangist leader Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil has said that unless the UN Security Council "guarantees the Syrian presence in Lebanon as well as its actions" and places it under Lebanese authority, the Phalangists will henceforth not accept the "Syrian presence" regardless of "the considerations and complications."

Diplomatic Contacts--After meeting with U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Morris Draper, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said they had discussed the situation in Lebanon with total frankness, Beirut radio reported. He added that the United States has major responsibilities in this connection and that his government insisted that action be taken to prevent Israeli acts of aggression against Lebanon. Another Beirut radio report said French Ambassador Louis Delamare met with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus to continue the talks begun by French presidential envoy Hubert Argod.

Meetings in Damascus--Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad met in Damascus with Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, Al-Murabitun Secretary General Ibrahim Qulaylat and a delegation of the Lebanese National Salvation Front in Southern Lebanon, Damascus television reported, to discuss the situation in Lebanon. Citing SANA, the television reported that after the meeting Junblatt made a statement praising the ADF role in Lebanon and condemning the practices of the Phalangists, who, he said, want to extend the "Zionist-isolationist" line to Zahlah in order to besiege Syria.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraq Protests Syrian Collusion--INA reported that Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi has sent a memorandum to all Arab League member countries and to the league's secretary

general, Chedli Klibi, protesting Syria's participation in Iran's 4 April attack on an Iraqi airbase. The memorandum, which cites evidence that the Iranian planes attacked from Syrian territory, said that Iraq reserves the right to take measures to protect itself against Syrian aggression.

Nonaligned Committee--The four-man nonaligned peace committee met in Baghdad with Iraqi Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, INA reported. Later, INA said, Foreign Minister Hammadi met separately with one of the committee members, his Indian counterpart, P.V. Narasimha Rao. The committee subsequently left for Tehran, INA reported, announcing in a press statement that it had acquainted itself with the Iraqi Government's stand on the war.

Military Situation--The Iranian Military Draft Board has announced the conscription of all male Iranians born in 1962-63, Tehran radio reported. The radio also noted that the gendarmerie has brought forward the draft date for a section of males born in 1959-62. An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by INA, claimed successes in the Gilan-e Gharb and Susangerd areas on 8-9 April. Tehran radio reported successes on a number of western and southern fronts and noted that Iraqi artillery shelled Ahvaz. Between 6 and 8 April Tehran radio had reported Iranian advances in mountainous western areas. Supreme Defense Council spokesman 'Ali Khamene'i stated that Iranian forces control Dehloran, Tehran radio reported, and claimed that the Iranians are ready to deal a final blow to Iraq as soon as the order is issued. Khamene'i made his comments after a tour of the western fronts and Dehloran.

Iran

Khomeyni Speech--In a speech to Muslim refugees from Iraq, broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni said the Iraqis should follow the example of Iran's Islamic revolution and overthrow their "despotic regime." Noting that the Iraqi authorities had executed Shi'ite leader Ayatollah as-Sayyid Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr because of his complaints about their oppression, Khomeyni asserted that President Saddam Husayn is even less a true Muslim than was the former shah of Iran.

Mashhad Ulema Dissent--AFP reported that the spiritual leaders in Mashhad, Ayatollahs Hasan Qomi and Abdollah Shirazi, have criticized Iran's political and judicial leaders for acting contrary to Islamic law. Ayatollah Qomi said the judiciary is incompetent and corrupt and asserted that the clergy should stay out of politics.

Circular on U.S.-Held Goods--Tehran radio broadcast the text of a circular issued by the Prime Ministry Office calling on all ministries and departments that own goods that were impounded by the U.S. Government but have now been released to take steps to have them shipped to Iran.

Iraq-Jordan

Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Wasim arrived in Baghdad on 9 April, INA reported, where he held talks with Foreign Minister Hammadi and delivered a message to President Saddam Husayn from Jordan's King Husayn. The message, he said, dealt with the Middle East situation in general and with Jordan's stand on the Iran-Iraq war. Citing PETRA-JNA, Amman radio said that on his return to Jordan, Al-Qasim stated that he and Hammadi had discussed the Israeli decision to dig a canal linking the Mediterranean and Dead Seas, the situation in Lebanon and recent moves to find a solution to the Middle East conflict.

Israel

Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori told the newspaper HA'ARETZ that Israel has decided to risk a confrontation with the U.S. administration by contesting the U.S. decision to sell AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia. He added that Israel has already appealed to various friends in the United States for help and will use U.S. public opinion and Israel's friends in Congress and in the White House in its fight.

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GANDHI REVIEWS 'GRIM' INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

BK091626 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] The prime minister has made it clear that development of nuclear weapons by Pakistan will have grave and irreversible consequences for the subcontinent. The government is fully aware of its responsibilities and will respond in the appropriate way. Mrs Gandhi, who was replying to the debate on the Defense Ministry's demands for grants in the Lok Sabha today, reiterated India's commitment to the use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes and to continue its crusade for total banning of nuclear weapons.

The prime minister, in a rapid survey of the international strategic situation, referred to developments in Afghanistan, the Gulf region, the resumption of the cold war and Pakistan's move to acquire massive and sophisticated weaponry from the United States and elsewhere. Mrs Gandhi paid handsome tributes to the members of the armed forces and appealed to the house to back them up with unity instead of getting bogged down by non-issues. The house unanimously voted the demands after her speech.

About Pakistan, the prime minister disclosed that Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao will soon be going to Islamabad to continue the dialogue between the two countries in pursuance of the Simla Agreement. Mrs Gandhi asserted that India never took any step which could be taken as a threat by any of its neighbors. India's efforts of friendship with the United States will continue, but they cannot ignore the realities and dangers of the unfolding situation, she said.

Referring to statements by some senior leaders outside Parliament that India, because of its size, need not be afraid of Pakistan, Mrs Gandhi said India is not afraid of anyone. She said during the last 10 years Pakistan has doubled its military strength, but India did not protest. Islamabad's latest move introduces a qualitative difference and Pakistan's defense is once again becoming part of a larger strategic alignment. That is what worries us. India has welcomed Pakistan's entry into the Nonaligned Movement, but do their new intentions fit in with nonalignment, she asked.

Mrs Gandhi said a mischievous campaign is being started to argue that Pakistan must be strengthened because of India's designs. This, she said, is patently ridiculous. She made it clear that it is not India's intention to build a war machine or to compete in an arms race. Its objective is primarily to prevent others from disturbing our peace and our efforts at development. Quoting figures she said that in 1979 Britain spent 4.9 percent of its gross national product on defense, while the percentage in the case of the United States was 5.2 and for the Soviet Union 11.13; India spent only 3.9 percent, while Pakistan's figure relating to 1978 was 5.7 percent.

Mrs Gandhi expressed deep concern at the unresolved crisis in Afghanistan. She reiterated that India stands for ending of all outside presences in that country as elsewhere. But it would be wrong to think that there is only one foreign intervention. India's advocacy of a political solution has assumed even greater relevance now than when the trouble began because of the increasing entanglement of big powers in the entire region. But while the situation in Afghanistan and the Gulf is serious, it is not half as menacing as the resumption of the cold war. Powerful nations in Europe and America seem to have a special flair for fighting their wars on the soils of the developing countries in Asia and Africa and the oceans of the region. Never in the last 20 years has the international outlook been as grim as it is today. This was not only her view but also of scores of other world leaders, Mrs Gandhi said.

The prime minister said she was not given to alarm, but she must warn the nation against complacency. The basic responsibility for peace lies with big powers, but smaller nations must also pull their weight and all countries must exert to hang on to peace. No opportunity for a dialogue should be missed and proposals like those made by President Brezhnev must be viewed in this context.

Referring to India's outlying island areas, Mrs Gandhi said the coast guard is being strengthened and other steps are also being taken to ensure their security. Legislation will be passed soon to deter poaching in our territorial waters. She also announced that a department of ocean development will be set up and later an ocean commission will also be established.

The prime minister denied that the chiefs of staff had met Senator (Price) of the United States, who was in India some time ago. Mrs Gandhi informed the house about the steps being taken to modernize and strengthen the three wings of the armed forces. She said the procurement of SSK submarines is in an advanced stage. Categorically denying that India was dependent on a single country, she said: Our equipment comes from several countries including France, West Germany, Italy, Britain, Sweden, the Soviet Union and the United States.

JAMMU, KASHMIR CHIEF MINISTER CRITICIZES GANDHI

BK081317 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah has criticized the prime minister for her statement that she could dismiss non-Congress-I state governments in a half hour or stop financial assistance to them. The sheikh was addressing a public meeting at Akhnoor about 40 km from Ajmmu today. He asked whether in a democracy the prime minister of the country should dismiss duly elected governments like this.

Referring to Mrs Gandhi's charge that the minorities are not safe in Jammu and Kashmir, the chief minister said the state is a symbol of secularism where the majority community has always sacrificed for the minorities. Similar views were expressed by the sheikh while inaugurating a Gujar hostel at Kathua yesterday. He said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have rejected the two-nation theory.

Gandhi Denies Statement

BK091256 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi denied in the Lok Sabha today that she had said that she could finish the Jammu and Kashmir government in half an hour's time. The clarification came during the debate on grants for the Defense Ministry when Maniram Bagri, socialist, made a reference to a report attributing such a statement to Mrs Gandhi during her recent visit to the Jammu region.

USSR TO COOPERATE IN BUILDING-MATERIAL SECTOR

BK100738 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] India and the Soviet Union signed in New Delhi yesterday a protocol on cooperation in the development of building materials, particularly cement from marginal grade limestone. The protocol followed conclusion of the third meeting of the working groups on India-Soviet cooperation in building materials. It was signed by the deputy chairman of scientific and Technical Council of Soviet Ministry of Building Materials Industry, (A.N. Shrovitskiy), and the director general of the Cement Research Institute, (S.K. Chopra).

NONALIGNED COMMITTEE ARRIVES IN TEHRAN FROM BAGHDAD

GF101122 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 Apr

[Text] The members of the committee selected by the Nonaligned Movement to study the Iraqi war imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran arrived in Tehran at 1140 today. The members of the committee were received at Mehrabad Airport by senior Foreign Ministry officials and the ambassadors of the countries of the committee members.

The committee members are the foreign ministers of Cuba, India and Zambia and the PLO representative at the United Nations.

RELIGIOUS LEADERS REJECT CONCILIATION WITH IRAQ

NC101111 Paris AFP in English 1101 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] Tehran, 10 Apr (AFP)--Iranian religious leaders today rejected any conciliation with Iraq in the Gulf war.

Grasping a rifle, Friday prayer leader and spokesman for the Supreme Defence Council Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i told a crowd of worshippers at Tehran University, "We are not against peace but we are against conciliation with infide's."

And Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mohammad Baqer Hakim said peace was impossible "between Islam and heresy." He quoted Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni as saying that if peace were established against the will of God then Iraqi President Saddam Husayn would "massacre the combatants for Islam."

The speeches coincided with the arrival in Iran of the Islamic Conference good offices mission mediating between the two sides in the war.

Ayatollah Khamene'i also warned against those in Iran who, if they took power, would treat the clergy as President Husayn did Shi'ite Moslem leader As-Sayyid Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr, whom the Iranians allege died in prison.

KHOMEYNI SPEECH MARKS AS-SADR ANNIVERSARY

LD091516 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Speech by Ayatollah Khomeyni to "3,000 muslim refugees driven out of Iraq" with whom he met on 9 April in Tehran of the anniversary of the martyrdom of Ayatollah as-Sayyid Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr and his sister--recorded, duration 29 minutes]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I condole with all meet nations of the world, the Muslim nations in general and the Iraqi and Iranian nations in particular, on the occasion of the martyrdom of the late Ayatollah as-Sadr. My brothers, my dear ones who were driven out of your own homeland, during your sufferings throughout the rule of the Ba'th, we, too, were troubled in Iran as you were in Iraq. In Iran, we were beset with an odious dictatorial regime which did things to our nation that even the Mongols did not do. It drove our ulema away from their homeland and martyred some of them. It heaped disrespect on our women and destroyed their self-respect. It threw our young people in prison and tortured them and even, some people say, roasted some of them alive. It also had some of these people's feet cut off. It exiled a great many clergymen from our country, from their country, or kept them in prison, insulted and oppressed them.

You, too, throughout the life of this debauched, infidel party, have been suffering just as we did. They arrested your young people en route to the Mausoleum of the Holy Arch Martyr [Imam Husayn] for a pilgrimage and behaved barbarously toward them. Your ulema, too, have also suffered at the hands of this debauched, corrupt party. We saw what they did to the late Ayatollah Haqim. And they martyred the late Ayatollah as-Sadr for the sole crime of complaining about their oppression and for wishing to establish the rule of Islam. They also martyred his dearly beloved and oppressed sister.

We have given martyrs, and so have you. We have spent time in prison, and so have you. But the blessed and exalted God wished to save the Iranian nation from the crushing weight of oppression and granted us success so that, united and relying on the generous God, we triumphed over the despotic regime of the time, drove the despot out of the country, cut off the hands of the superpowers from our country, and set up this humanitarian, Islamic regime in Iran. But, unfortunately, foreign hands are at work, were at it right from the start, to prevent the establishment of this Islamic government and to prevent the governments of the Islamic countries from falling into the hands of the superpowers, committed aggression against Iran and, thus against Arab-inhabited regions. This person and this germ of corruption who is invading in the name of Arabism and Islam did to the Arab nation and to the Arabs dwelling in Iran what Mohammad Reza did to the whole of Iran. And worse still, he killed Iran's Arabs or made them homeless and massacred so many of the women and children in the Arab-inhabited regions and elsewhere for the sake of--to quote him--Arabism, that the size of Iran's graveyards doubled during the oppressive regime of this phlebotomist and his Satanic brothers.

There is no way out except through unity of word and reliance on God. When I was in Iran before my exile in Iraq, I used to imagine that the Arab tribes which also possessed arms would stand up to this despot and would put their leader in his place. However, after going to Iraq, I was even more surprised when I saw how, in the presence of the selfsame tribes in the same nation, they surrounded the religious head of the Iraqi and Islamic nation and took him to Najaf under guard and then martyred him unjustly.

If the Iraqi nation wishes to save itself from the affliction which continues to beset it and to save itself from the oppression of these oppressors, there is no other way out but to act as Iran did when the nation held meetings, united and, with its unity of word and reliance on the blessed and exalted god, overthrew that despotic regime. Despite the fact that that government had much greater power than this Ba'thist government of very thogh Saddam, the Iranian nation, although it possessed no arms, was able to overthrow that germ of corruption and wicked dynasty of kings who throughout history were the most criminal of men and to replace it with the Islamic Republic. Iraq, too, has no other way out. [shouts of "God is great," and "Khomeyni is the leader"]

The nations themselves should arise and should start a movement to release themselves from the hands of the desperadoes. The nations should not sit and wait to be saved from other places and by other people. The nation itself is the source of its salvation. In Iran, although no other country assisted the people--on the contrary, all the Islamic and non-Islamic countries except a few opposed them and supported the former regime--nevertheless, as the nation had decided to topple that evil dynasty, it was carried out. If a nation desires something, it is not possible to impose something else upon it; the opposite of what a nation wants cannot be imposed upon it.

The Iraqi people should not sit and wait for a hand to come from outside to save them. The Iraqi nation is an Islamic nation, following Islam and the glorious Koran, and is opposed to dictatorship, tyranny and savagery. The Iraqi nation should follow Islam, and the nation--and other nations--should try to save themselves.

The Iranian nation is not separate from the Iraqi nation or from other Islamic nations. All of them are one nation and together they have a population of 1 billion. They are the same nation and have vast resources. Unfortunately, due to the deviation of most of the Islamic governments, these 1 billion people are under the yoke of the oppression of the Great Satan, and the enormous resources of these Islamic countries are swallowed up by the great powers.

The nations should arise and save themselves from the domination of their governments and from the domination of the great powers. [shouts of "God is great"] if the Iranian nation had hoped for somebody from outside to assist it and to save it, it would still be under the same pressure and the tyrannical Pahlavi government would still rule over it. But it did not sit waiting and, although the governments of the East and West came to the aid of Mohammad Reza and supported him, nevertheless, despite the support of all the foreign powers and despite the great military power he possessed in the country, when the nation arose as one body, when men and women, young and old shouted that they did not want that tyrannical government and that blasphemous monarchy, then none of the foreign powers was able to stop the nation. The internal powers also turned their backs upon the former shah and joined the nation.

If the Iraqi Muslims arise, the Iraqi Armed Forces will also join them and they will uproot this germ of corruption from there. Recently, I read somewhere, in a report by one of the news agencies, that the Iraqi Government says: We have always been Muslims and testify to the unity of God and the mission of the prophet. We are Muslims: Why do you call us infidels: I tell them that before we say such a thing you have already been excommunicated [Takfir] by Ayatollah Hakim. May God's grace be upon him. The Iraqi nation is Islamic, but the beliefs of the Ba'thist regime are not Islamic beliefs and they have been declared infidels by the leader of their nation [referring to Ayatollah Hakim]. The declaration of being Muslim, made by Saddam and those like him, is the same as the Islamic pretenses by Mohaddad Reza. I regard it as possible that, at the bottom of his heart, Mohammad Reza was a Muslim although a Muslim worse than an infidel. But I do not regard it as possible that even in the innermost part of his being Saddam has any leaning toward Islam. [shouts of God is great," "Khomeyni is the leader"]

The uprising against an Islamic country and an Islamic government which is now established in Iran is, in itself, an indictment of blasphemy and infidelity. Although this man regards himself a Muslim, he has risen against Islam. Our Muslim nation has no other guilt except that it wishes to remove the hands of the great powers from its resources and from its people, except that it wishes to have an Islamic government. From the beginning it wanted to have an Islamic government and voted for an Islamic government and established it. It is only for this reason that it is being reprimanded by the superpowers and became an object of aggression by the rotten lackeys of the superpowers.

Saddam has said: If you do not act according to my wishes, I shall destroy your country even more. You have done what you could do and you will do what you can, but you have not been able to do more--not that you did not wish to do more. If you can, you will kill all the Muslims of Iran. However, this was a vain thought which came to your mind. You imagined that if you invade Iran the Iranian nation would remain indifferent; you thought the Iranian Armed Forces were weak and impotent. But the nation and the armed forces have taught you that the situation was not as you had imagined and as the great powers had made you think. At the very moment you attacked--and it was a surprise attack--you were stopped. Since then you have not been able to advance even one step, and from now on you will be pushed further back each day. [shouts of "God is great"]

Were we not afraid that the noble Iraqi nation might be harmed, had our nation thought like Saddam, that one should advance even at the expense of destroying nations, even at the expense of killing children, women and old men, had we had such a program, then who could do anything. [shouts of "God is great"]

However, our nation is committed to Islam, and our armed forces are committed to Islam; it is an army that passes over the big cities of Iraq and smashes the military targets in the farthest corner of the country, on the border with Jordan, but does not drop even one bomb upon the Iraqi cities. This nation and this army and these armed forces are Islamic. He who smashes the Muslims, who turns Arab Muslims into refugees, who destroys an Islamic country for the crime of being a Muslim country, he is not a Muslim even if he shouts that he is, even if he shouts that he testifies. That is hypocritical Islam. Many people make such protestations, as they did in the early days of Islam. But they were hypocrites who were even worse than the rest of the infidels.

I beseech God, the almighty, the all-blessed, to awaken the Muslim nations, to enlighten the Iraqi nation so that you can free yourselves from the yoke of the great powers and the germs of corruption who slaughter Muslims in the name of Islam, who trample upon Islamic teachings in the name of Islam, who martyr the Muslim ulema in the name of Islam--specially someone like As-Sayyid Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr, who was an Islamic intellectual and there was hope that Islam might reap more benefit from him. I hope Muslims will read the books of this great man. May God Almighty reunite him with his revered ancestors. May God also reunite his esteemed, wronged sister with her ancestors. I hope that the Islamic nation may remove the hands of the great powers from the Muslim countries through their uprisings.

May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

BANI-SADR INSPECTS KHUZESTAN FRONTLINE 9 APR

GF091858 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] PARS reports that Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president and commander in chief of the armed forces, inspected the frontline in Khuzestan Province this afternoon. He was accompanied by the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, Dr. Mostafa Chamran; the deputy chief of the staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran; the deputy commander of the Ground Forces; and a number of military commanders.

Earlier, the president visited the headquarters of the operations on the front, where the commander of the forces stationed in the area explained the situation of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the aggressive Iraqi Army in the region.

Returns to Tehran 10 Apr

GF101115 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] President and Armed Forces Commander in Chief Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr returned to Tehran today after inspecting the warfront in Khuzestan.

GOVERNMENT, GOVERNORS GENERAL HOLD SEMINAR

LD091318 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] A joint seminar of the members of the government and the governors general was held at 1045 today. The governors general presented committee reports.

The meeting reviewed the question of war-stricken people. Mir Salim, the Interior Minister under secretary and the war-stricken foundation's supervisor, complained about the failure of the governors general to cooperate in presenting a report concerning provincial alternatives.

He asked the governors general to prepare and send as soon as possible these reports to the war stricken foundation, thus enabling the foundation to establish a coordinated plan. He also requested the governors general to forward their proposals to the foundation. The meeting ended at 1200 and the next session of the seminar is to be held at 1500 today with the participation of Prime Minister Raja'i.

CIRCULAR ON SHIPPING U.S.-HELD GOODS TO IRAN

LD091802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Apr 81

["Circular" issued to government ministries and departments by the Coordinating and Implementing Secretariat of the Algerian declaration at the Office of the Prime Minister]

[Text] In his exalted name, on the basis of information received from the buresu looking after Iran's interests in America, and following the measures already taken, the goods belonging to Iran that are presently controlled by the U.S. government and its citizens--and that have already been totally paid for, and injunctions issued, and now cancelled, for their expropriation by U.S. courts--can be shipped to Iran. Consequently, all ministries and departments that own these goods are asked to directly contact those holding them and take steps to have them shipped to Iran.

Meanwhile, all ministries and departments are asked to forward one copy of their correspondence together with a brief description of the situation concerning the goods in question, as well as a report on the difficulties involved, to the Coordinating and Implementing Secretariat of the Algerian declaration at the Office of the Prime Minister, so that the Foreign Ministry and the bureau looking after Iran's interests in America may provide appropriate support when necessary.

PUBLISHERS ADVISED TO CONFIRM LICENSES AT MINISTRY

LD091220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, following the statement issued by the revolution prosecutor about the press, the Ministry of Islamic Guidance issued a statement addressed to all those who hold press licenses. It announced that, in order to receive confirmation of their permission to publish, they should go to the Press and Publications Department of this ministry in Tehran or to the provincial offices of the Ministry of Islamic Guidance. This statement reminds the publishing houses that the only publications that are allowed are those whose licenses have been confirmed by this ministry.

According to this statement, in view of Article 1 of the statement of the Special Press Tribunal, all publishing houses and publications are dutybound to carefully observe the contents of Article 12 of the press law.

MILITARY ISSUES DRAFT NOTICE TO 20-YEAR-OLD MALES

LD091400 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Summary] The military draft board has issued a statement conscripting all male nationals born in 1962-63. Those who ignore the order will be sentenced to 1-2 years imprisonment. The draft board of the state gendarmerie issued a statement bringing forward the date of the draft for males born between 1959-62 in cities in the east of the country and who are now residing in Tehran, from 22 May-21 June to the current month. Those affected must present themselves no later than 12 April for despatch to the training centers. Those who disregard the order will be prosecuted.

KHAMENE'I SAYS DEHLORAN CONTROLLED BY IRANIAN FORCES

LD092108 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Excerpt] A PARS report says that Khamene'i, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, after having visited the western fronts and Dehloran, announced: Dehloran is controlled by our combatants. The defenders of the revolution, enjoying high morale, are ready in their trenches to deal the final blow to the enemy as soon as appropriate orders have been issued.

Commenting on Iran's proposals to the investigating mission dealing with the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran, Khamene'i said: The proposals are covered in the initial three points. He added: Despite Saddam's utterances claiming that they are in control of Dehloran, and despite the films of this town that are being shown, films no one knows the date of, we saw Dehloran from close quarters and noticed the high moral enjoyed by the heroic brothers stationed there. They are quite ready to deal blows at the enemy at any time. He then expressed the hope for the reconstruction of the town by the Islamic Iranian Armed Forces and the local people.

COMMUNIQUE 463 ON WESTERN, SOUTHERN FRONT ACTIVITY

LD091852 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Communique No 463 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In his exalted name. Muslim and revolutionary compatriots of Iran.

Operations carried out by the combative and self-sacrificing brothers of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the situation on the western and southern fronts on 7 and 8 April, are announced as follows:

Western fronts:

1. Yesterday, the positions of the mercenaries of the Iraqi Army in the region of Dar Baluch came under the fire of our forces. One enemy ammunition tent was set on fire and destroyed and seven of Saddam's servicemen were killed. At 1535 today, the combatants of the Ground Forces brought the enemy positions on one of the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab fronts under heavy mortar fire. Eight of Saddam's mercenaries were killed and nine other wounded.

2. The heroes of the gendarmerie, in operations carried out on 7 April, brought the enemy positions on the fronts of Kani Sakht under mortar fire. In these operations, which lasted until 2230 the same day, six trenches and a foxhole and one truck carrying enemy personnel were destroyed and some of their occupants were killed or wounded. Meanwhile, on 8 April, sporadic exchanges of fire between the forces continued on this front, and 15 enemy troops were killed or wounded.

Southern fronts:

1. On the Abadan front, the combatants of the Ground Forces, opening artillery and heavy weapons fire on the enemy, destroyed gun emplacements, 2 assembly buildings, 1 106-mm gun, 3 vehicles, 1 telecommunications tower, 3 ammuntion dumps, and 1 observation post, and killed or wounded 30 of the troops there. In a series of successful operations, the combatants of the Army Airborne Division destroyed one fuel tanker and two dumpers belonging to Saddam's merecenaries and killed the crew members.

2. Yesterday, the combatants of the Ground Forces brought the enemy positions in the regions of Bostan and the (?front) of Allah-o Akhbar under intense artillery and heavy weapons fire. There is no accurate information on the extent of losses and casualties suffered by the enemy. On one of the Dezful fronts, the same combatants managed to destroy two enemy observation trenches.

3. At 2145 yesterday, one enemy armored unit, which was moving in the region of Reqabiyeh in Ahvaz, came under the intense fire of our artillery. One enemy tank was destroyed and enemy troops were killed or wounded.

4. In the exchange of fire carried out on 8 April on the Susangerd front, the combatants of the gendarmerie brought the positions of the mercenaries of Saddam under heavy weapons fire, inflicting losses and casualties on the enemy. In retaliation, Saddam's mercenaries brought Susangerd under sporadic heavy weapons fire.

5. During the past 48 hours, sporadic shooting continued on the Khuninshahr front. As a result of the fire of the combatants of the navy, three foxholes and several observation trenches belonging to the enemy were destroyed and a number of enemy troops were killed or wounded. Yesterday, Abadan again came under the enemy's long-range artillery fire and minor losses were inflicted on residential areas. Some residents were wounded. Three enemy aircraft, which yesterday attempted to violate the airspace of two of our western cities, were forced to flee by the intense fire of the air defense combatants based in the area. In operations carried out on 8 April, 12 of the best combatants of the Ground Forces of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran achieved the honor of martyrdom and gave their clean lives while guarding the Islamic homeland of Iran. May their souls rest in peace.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRAQI ARTILLERY CONTINUES TO SHELL AHVAZ; 7 INJURED

LD092048 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Summary] Ahvaz came under Iraqi long-range artillery shelling. As a result, seven civilians were injured and several houses and a department store were damaged, PARS reports.

In the past 24 hours, four soldiers injured on the southern fronts were admitted to Ahvaz hospitals. The body of a martyr was transferred to an Ahvaz hospital.

GUARDS CORPS ISSUES STATEMENT ON RECENT FIGHTING

LD092240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Summary] In a statement the Public Relations Office of the Revolution Guards Corps outlined the guards operations over the past 2 days as follows:

Western fronts: On the Gilan-e Gharb front, the revolution's fighters inflicted heavy blows on the enemy. Today, they shelled enemy positions with artillery. The shells were carrying a message from the leader of the Islamic revolution. In the early hours this morning, the Iraqis assaulted Nowdesheh Heights, but were forced to retreat.

Southern fronts: 1. In Darkhovin, one Iraqi tank was blown up by our forces' shelling and two more tanks were damaged. Also, one munitions truck and one fuel tanker were totally destroyed by our brother guards. "Our airborne brothers, following some shelling by the self-sacrificing guardsmen, brought an enemy strategic installation under rocket attack in Darkhovin. The damage resulting from this attack will be announced later."

2. In Dasht-e 'Abbas, eight Iraqi group bunkers were destroyed by our guardsmen. Three Iraqis were either killed or wounded.

3. One observation post was demolished by our guardsmen in the Ahvaz area and three Iraqis were killed on the Shush front.

[An earlier Tehran radio report at 1630 GMT cities PARS as reporting that Iranian forces destroyed an enemy ammunition dump and 13 entrenchments on the Western front, killing their personnel; that two Iraqi entrenchments on the Mehran front were levelled, martyring one Iranian soldier and wounding two others; and that at 1300 today, an Iraqi aircraft attempting to bomb Ilam was forced to flee and dropped its bombs on the deserts around the city]

CLERGYMEN CRITICIZE LEADERSHIP IN AFP INTERVIEW

NC091418 Paris AFP in English 1348 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Report by Jean-Pierre Perrin]

[Text] Mashhad, Northeast Iran, 9 Apr (AFP)--Two of Iran's top religious leaders have started lashing out at the leaders of the country, making serious accusations including that of not being "true Moslems".

Ayatollahs Hasan Qomi and Abdollah Shirazi, the aged and respected spiritual chiefs in the holy city of Mashhad in northeast Iran near the Afghan border, are severely critical of high-ranking officials and even of the country's revolutionary bodies.

Ayatollah Qomi, who has a thick white beard and wears a black turban, the sign of descendents of Mohammad, launches the most virulent attacks from his "school" here.

"Everything being done by these leaders, including (President Abolhasan) Bani-Sadr, is not Islamic. They are doing it in the name of Islam, but their trials, their tortures, their decisions, and the confiscation of personal goods are against Islamic law", he told AFP in an interview.

"Often the Islamic courts are headed by people who do not know Islam, who are corrupt, pitiless, and the vast majority of their decisions are worthless", he charged.

Asked about the domestic situation, Ayatollah Qomi replied: "If the country is to emerge from the current crisis, all the revolutionary bodies existing in Iran must [words indistinct] are corrupt". These bodies include the Islamic security forces.

This appeared to be in contradiction with oft-repeated statements by the nation's top spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, who has always said the revolutionary organisations should play a primordial role in Iran.

Ayatollah Qomi regretted the fact that the leadership did not appear to listen to the holy men of Mashhad, adding: "The real clergy do not want power....They do not approve of the clergy who are ruling us. The real work of the clergy is to give advice and enlightenment to the people".

Ayatollah Shirazi, also with a white beard and black clothes, warned of "the explosion" threatening Iran. During his interview with AFP, he was seated in a room of his school surrounded by religious figures while a dozen penitents flagellated themselves with chains.

"The difficulties arise from the practices of several executive bodies which provoke the discontent of the people", he declared.

Asked about the U.S. hostages, Ayatollah Shirazi said the seizing of the American Embassy in Tehran was a "great act" but the freeing of the prisoners was "treason".

The Shi'ite leader condemned a key item in the land reform act which would split up big holdings among the farm workers. This project, the ayatollah said, would "destroy Iran's agriculture so that Iran would need grain from the enemy."

Ayatollah Shirazi regretted the fact that Mashhad, which receives between three and four million pilgrims a year, was apparently being played down as a holy place.

"Unfortunately, the country's leading officials do not want to talk about Mashhad because they want Qom to be the only Islamic centre and the only revolutionary centre," he said.

QOM GUARDS URGE VIGILANCE OVER SUSPICIOUS OBJECTS

LD100824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau dispatch, Qom's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has requested the citizens of Qom, should they encounter any suspicious object, to report the particulars without approaching it.

The statement released in this connection by Qom's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps says: Since the enemy is repeatedly facing defeat in the present war, he has therefore resorted to shameful, inhuman plots and to creating terror among the people. To further that end, he certainly would not refrain from perpetrating any inhuman act by the hands of his venal henchmen.

The statement warned the people: As we witnessed a number of enemy plots in the past week that culminated in damage and in injury to innocent people, the public should remain constantly vigilant and look out for them. Should it notice any furtive movements or any suspicious object, it should inform Qom's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of the details.

KEYHAN REPORTS LATE MARCH CLASHES IN RAMSAR

LD090903 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 31 Mar 81 p 11

[KEYHAN correspondent report: "Ramsar Clashes Leave Two Dead, Several Injured"]

[Excerpts] Ramsar--Following clashes 5 and 6 Farvardin [25 and 26 March] in Ramsar involving supporters of political groups, Ramsar guards and members of the mobilization organization who had left the Al-Mahdi Garrison in Chalus and were passing through Ramsar on their way to the battlefront, a Mojahedin supporter and a member of the mobilization organization were killed, following which distrubances broke out in the city and the bazaar closed down.

View of Ramsar Assistant Revolution Prosecutor

In a discussion with the KEYHAN correspondent, the Ramsar Islamic Revolution Court assistant prosecutor, Hasan Farrokhfard, said: "Last Wednesday, a number of mobilization organization brothers bound for the battlefront from the Chalus garrison decided to go via Konareh (the road through Kodvan was closed), get out of their vehicles at Ramsar and the other cities and march to show that they were off to the battlefront. As they moved along the street they were joined by committed Muslims [presumably Hezbollah members].

"Mojahedin-e Khalq supporters threw stones at the Hexbollahis, as they had begun to do on the previous day, and several brothers were injured in the incident. During the march, some of the mojahedin also stoned those going to the battlefront and a clash ensued in which both sides suffered minor casualties. In addition to this, the brother guards were taunted by the Mojahedin-e Khalq and the Peykaris; the latter even went as far as to assault mobilization organization brothers.

"When the people had left the Bazaar mosque Friday morning following a speech by Sajjadi, the prosecutor's representative at the Antinarcotics Bureau, a member of the airport Islamic society by the name of Chalaki was attacked by the Mojahedin-e Khalq and received a broken nose, following which he lodged a complaint at the police station.

"Saturday morning, brother guards took to the streets. Several of them were beaten up and jeered at, and some cars tried to run them down. A decision was then made that the revolution prosecutor should make lawful arrests, in keeping with Islamic rules, of two or three of those responsible for beating up and taunting the brother guards and mobilization organization members. Several people then began to prevent the arrests from taking place, at which point the brother guards returned [to their headquarters] to say that there was resistance. A general order was then issued to the effect that if anyone created a disturbance or failed to comply with the prosecutor's instructions, he would be arrested."

Discussion With Khalil [Kheyrollah] Eqbali's Brothers

Two brothers of Khalik Eqbali, the Mojahedin-e Khalq supporter killed in the clashes, told the KEYHAN reporter that the body had not yet been handed over to them. They said: "We have been in contact with the authorities and they demanded that we should undertake to release one hostage [in return for the body] and that we should bury the body without taking political advantage [of the death]. Why should anyone have to stay in a mortuary for several days? He was, after all, a Mojahedin-e Khalq supporter, and as such he engaged in many revolutionary activities."

NVOI DENIES SOVIETS SUPPLYING MISSILES TO IRAQ

TA092021 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Unattributed commentary: "To Whose Benefit Is the Misleading of Public Opinion?"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Now that the tattered paper MIZAN has been closed for spreading rumors, lies, accusations and slander, for attempts to sow discord and for violating the imam's guidelines, it seems as though the inauspicious role of that mouthpiece of the dependent liberals has been turned over to elements such as Fakhreddin Hejazi.

As you are aware, at the session of the Islamic Consultative Assembl Fakhreddin Hejazi, while pointing out the assistance given by Western countries--above all by world-devouring America--and the region's reactionary regimes to the elements of imperialism to continue the imposed war on our country, he uttered an unbelievable and preposterous lie in the presence of the Majlis deputies in the well-known style of the liberals for the purpose of demonstrating that he is allegedly neither Western or Eastern. Feigning ignorance, Fakhreddin Hejazi claimed that the Soviet Union allegedly says it has placed 150 missiles at the disposal of Iraq at its base in Basrah.

We all recall that about 2 months ago imperialist propaganda organizations also published false reports and created a tumult by alleging that 100 Soviet-built tanks were dispatched to Iraq through Saudi Arabia.

Certain newspapers, such as MIZAN and ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, became harmonious in this false hullabaloo with imperialist propaganda organizations--VOA, the BBC and others--and persistently aided in the publication of this nonsense. However, those same Western news agencies later denied this report; but the conspiratorial, aggressive and hostile actions of world-devouring U.S. imperialism and its Western allies against liberated Iran is continuing in various forms.

Haig, the Reagan administration's secretary of state, has taken pains to travel to our region to accelerate the adventurous military preparations of U.S. imperialism. In this connection, the mercenaries of imperialist circles in our country, in the visage of the compromising liberals, have begun endeavors to somehow cover up the plots of U.S. imperialism against Iran. They try to pretend that the United States and the Soviet Union have an identical stance toward the issue of the Iran-Iraq war. The lies by Hejazi also emanate from here.

One can hardly find a person in our country who has not heard from the tongue of this same Hejazi that we have no conflict with America. Yes, Fakhreddin Hejazi and similar elements, who every night dream about the return of the previous era, are not in conflict with world-devouring U.S. imperialism. It is the combatant and liberated Iranian people who are in combat with U.S. imperialism and who are determined to continue their struggles until a final and decisive victory.

The lies of Hejazi, which should have been reflected in the pages of MIZAN, are for diverting and distracting public opinion from the main enemy: world-devouring U.S. imperialism. Hejazi's claim that the Soviet Union says it has supplied Iraq with 150 missiles is among the nonsense which normally emanates from imperialist and Zionist news sources. Even the official representatives of the Iraqi Government have explicitly said many times that from the start of the war with Iran to the present, the Soviet government has not put weapons at the disposal of Iraq.

Furthermore, many of our country's high-ranking officials have many times officially acknowledged that no evidence exists regarding the shipment of weapons by the Soviet Union to Iraq. In such a circumstance, the lies by Fakhreddin Hejazi, and in the Islamic Consultative Assembly at that, cannot be attributed to anything other than attempts to divert public opinion, create hostility, distort the facts and save world-devouring America from blows.

The policy of the Soviet Government toward our nation's revolution and our Islamic Republic is an absolutely clear policy--a policy of support and protection of the Iranian nation and government in the face of the plots of imperialism and its puppets in the region. The leaders of our neighboring and great country have repeatedly declared this principle. However, none of these documented proofs is of importance to the liberal gentlemen and their mouthpieces, who are fed from the manger of U.S., British and Zionist news sources. They have only one task and aim ahead of them: misleading the Iranian nation's public opinion and saving their American masters from blows.

However, the attempt of Hejazi and other liberal and MIZAN elements is a vain one. Our homeland's people are good at distinguishing friends from foe. It is not without reason that despite the futile attempts of the MIZAN people, the compromising liberals and the American Maoists, our homeland's people, by identifying their principal enemy--the arch-Satan--are continuing their struggles against this world-devouring imperialism with intensity and ferocity.